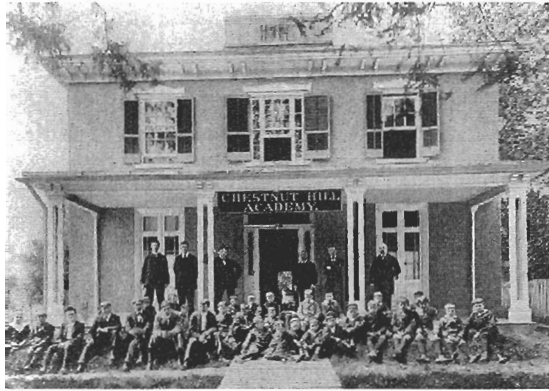


HISTORY OF CHESTNUT HILL ACADEMY

Chestnut Hill Academy was founded in 1851 by the Rev. Roger Owen, DD, first pastor of the Chestnut Hill Presbyterian Church and his brother Joshua T. Owen, A.M. A boarding and day school for boys offering a practical and thorough English, mathematical and classical education, it was located at the southwest corner of Germantown and Springfield Avenues. After a restructuring of the school and its incorporation in 1861, it moved to a new building behind the Presbyterian Church at Rex and Germantown Avenues.



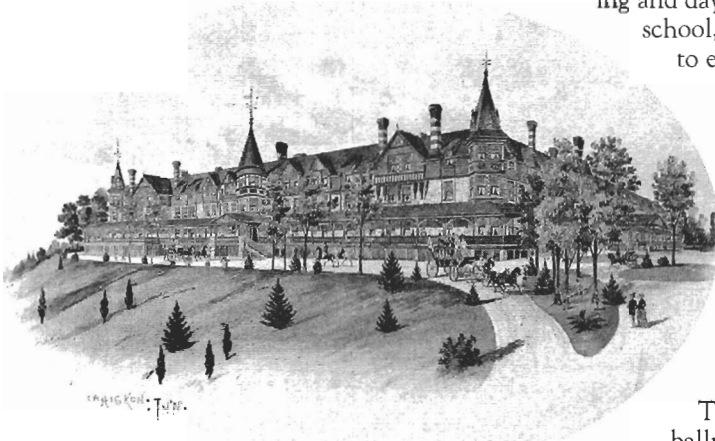
CHA circa 1896 at the 8030 Germantown Avenue location.

In 1895 the charter of the school was transferred to new trustees who wished to create a first-class boys preparatory school to meet the needs of the growing population of Chestnut Hill. Through the assistance of one of the trustees, Charles W. Henry, a property at 8030 Germantown Avenue was purchased as the site of the reorganized Academy.

The school's immediate success caused a dire need for an expanded campus, which was met by a generous offer from the family of two of its students. In 1898 under an agreement with the Henry H. Houston Estate, the Academy relocated to the Wissahickon Inn, which was built in 1884 by H. H. Houston as a luxury resort. Because improved transportation made more distant vacations accessible, the popularity of the inn faded, and by 1898, it operated only during the summer months. The school moved into the inn on September 5, 1898, making use of its facilities during the resort's off-season. The two shared the same building until 1902, when Chestnut Hill Academy took up permanent residence as a boarding and day college preparatory school, and the inn ceased to exist.

Numerous renovations and new buildings were soon undertaken. Beginning in 1905 the Woodward Gymnasium was erected, and the inn's former open-air marble swimming pool was enclosed.

The floor of the former ballroom was lowered five feet to permit its renovation into the Epiphany Chapel. The



1884 watercolor painting of the Wissahickon Inn used to promote the "new suburban hotel."



The Epiphany Chapel, formerly the hotel's ballroom, pictured in 1907.

The Great Depression during the 1930s introduced new financial constraints and a declining enrollment of boarding students. In 1934 CHA became solely a college preparatory country day school for boys. However, enrollment continued to decrease, and teachers left to serve in World War II. In 1942 Forms III through VI (grades 9-12) were discontinued. In 1952 the Upper School reopened with the Class of 1956, the first to graduate as seniors. Fortunately many still had faith in the Academy, and the Houston family generously deeded the buildings and grounds over to the board of trustees.

Headmaster Robert A. Kingsley requested the chance to turn the school around and succeeded by the initial addition of summer camps and the subsequent introduction of kindergarten and a preschool day care center for mothers working in the war effort.



Shown here in 1909, the former livery stables, now known as the 'Rec' was used as a gymnasium and currently is the home of the Players.



The Henry Library in 1913. The mural painted by Violet Oakley in 1905 is considered to be one of the noted artist's best works.

livery stable, which had been used for the horses of the inn's guests, was converted into practice facilities for sports. The inn's former dining room was converted into the Charles W. Henry Library, and an important Violet Oakley mural was installed. In 1908 the Houston family presented adjacent land across Willow Grove Avenue to the Academy for use as athletic fields.

In 1956 the Kline Science Building was built providing state-of-the-art labs and classroom facilities and, together with the Baird Science Endowment, has enhanced all aspects of the science curriculum and instruction. Also in 1956 the first phase of a new gymnasium was completed with the opening of the ground-floor locker rooms for the Kingsley Gymnasium which was completed in 1961. The Lower



The Exchange as it appeared in 1903.

Springside School was launched. Touted by the *Harvard Independent Insider's Guide to Prep Schools* as "One of the best two-for-one deals in secondary education today," this program has enriched the academic and social experience of both schools. While Chestnut Hill Academy continues its focus on the education and developmental needs of boys, the coordinate program allows CHA and Springside School students to gradually encounter each other at appropriate ages in coed classes and activities. Upper School students move between two adjacent campuses, gain access to two accomplished faculties, twice the facilities and twice as many electives as either school could offer separately. The coordinate program also provides maximum participation and leadership opportunities for students at both schools.

At the beginning of the 21st century, Chestnut Hill Academy is poised for continued growth and success. Record enrollments, a strong financial position, outstanding academic, athletic, and extracurricular achievements define the school today.

Chestnut Hill Academy, under the leadership of Headmaster Francis Penn Steel

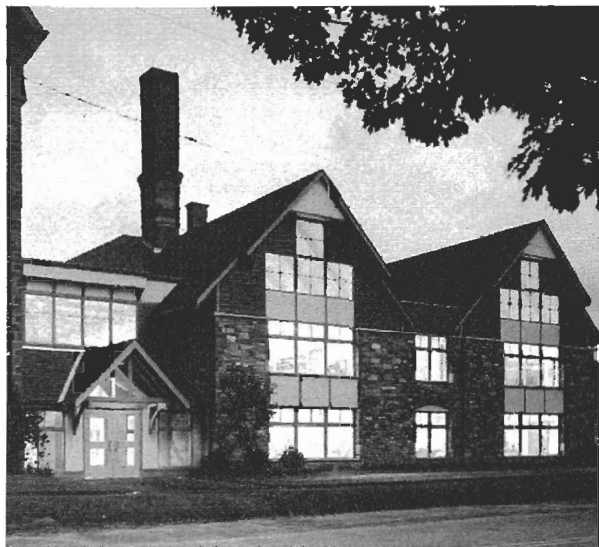
Jr. '77, is poised to build on its firm foundation of excellence, its traditions, and the support it has received from its community to develop programs and curriculum, to introduce new technologies, and to improve



The Wissahickon Inn pictured here in 1898 has been home to Chestnut Hill Academy since then.

School was given a home of its own with the construction of the Jordan Building in 1963. In 1966 squash courts were added onto the gymnasium complex. Between 1996 and 1998 the squash facilities were transformed into international courts and became a coordinate venture with Springside School and two new gallery courts were added.

In 1966 the coordinate program with



The CHA Art Wing and Barbara Crawford Art Gallery built in 2000

the campus and facilities. Generous support from our families and alumni in recent capital campaigns has provided a new art facility with ceramic and fine arts studios, multi-use classrooms and workshops, and a spacious gallery, dedicated to former faculty member Barbara Crawford. Campus-wide improvements included renovated parking lots and main entrance, the study hall, a new Lower School Library, a new roof and windows and exterior painting, a new soccer field, track and football field and resurfaced tennis courts. Currently in a new capital campaign entitled "Building the Future," CHA is pursuing aggressive goals outlined in its

new strategic plan which includes a reconfigured and renovated third floor to house the Middle School, a new Commons, a new Athletic Complex including a field house and multipurpose gymnasium, and a new Science and Technology Center. This campaign includes goals for increasing our endowment for faculty salaries, financial aid, and facility maintenance. Our endowment has historically been the highest per student among the Inter-Ac schools, and the Board of Trustees is committed to ensuring faculty salaries are competitive to allow CHA to attract and retain the very best teachers.

In addition to countless CEOs, doctors, lawyers, artists, scientists, educators, statesmen, entrepreneurs, journalists, accomplished athletes and other professionals, CHA boasts among its distinguished alumni a Nobel Prize winner, a Secretary of the Navy, a Pulitzer Prize winner, United States senators, an Oscar winner and Olympians.

CHA Lower School students continue to wear the traditional jerseys with the stripes emblazoned on the sleeves. The five stripes representing Loyalty, Integrity, Honesty, Courage, and Sportsmanship remain essential values of the CHA experience.

We welcome and celebrate the many diverse backgrounds of our students, alumni, and families. Through active recruiting and multicultural student and parent groups, CHA continues to foster respect and appreciation of differences. Our current student population comes from 68 zip code areas. Outstanding faculty, academics, and extracurricular activities remain hallmarks of a CHA education with exceptional opportunities in drama, music, journalism, writing, community service, the outdoor program, and athletics.